

Missionary News.

It will be good news to many to know that even in that stronghold of Catholicism, Spain, mission work has found a footing and has flourished. The Congregationalists of the United States have had a mission there for thirty-seven years, located in North Spain, with several organized churches and good boarding schools in operation.

"The old order changeth, yielding place to new." The old Inquisition Building in Bahia, Brazil, once the scene of fearful torture for non-Catholics, is now in use as the meeting-house of the First Baptist Church of Bahia! A few years ago, for the first time in centuries of history, foreigners were allowed to enter the sacred grounds of the "Temple of Heaven," in Peking, China, and there, on the steps of the Altar of Heaven, they sang, "We praise Thee, O God, for the Son of Thy love." Even in the closely guarded Moslem world, modern changes are in operation, when we hear of the Prophet's tomb lighted by electricity and a railroad being built from Damascus to Mecca. All these startling changes simply mean that exclusiveness is being broken down and a path made for the entrance of the light and freedom of the gospel.

A movement is on foot in Glasgow to purchase Dr. Livingstone's birthplace at Blantyre and make of it a memorial museum, to be opened at his centenary four years hence.

Though some relief has been sent to the scene of the terrible massacres of last spring, there is still much distress. Perhaps it will stir some to larger giving to hear of the children of Aintab Orphanage who voted to eat nothing but dry bread two meals a day for a month, and who bought with the money, material, for clothing the destitute in Adana. The girls and teachers sewed this material up into 410 garments, on each of which was penned a Bible verse, selected and written by the boys of the school. These children have surely learned to give till they feel it.

The enthusiasm of the Laymen's Missionary Movement has spread to Australia, and all the Protestant denominations there have united in an effort to solve the problem of world-wide evangelization. They hope to secure some organization at the time of the World's Missionary Conference in Edinburgh.

Have many realized the progress and strength of Mormonism on our North American continent? Those who live in close contact with it tell us that it was never stronger or more aggressive than to-day. The apostles of that religion meet little opposition, for the people of America cannot even be convinced that there is a Mormon problem. As a matter of fact, they hold the balance of political power and so the real political control of five States, and they have one of their "twelve apostles," Reed Smoot, in the United States Senate. They are establishing everywhere, not by any means only within the borders of the United States, well-equipped schools, colleges and hospitals. Mormonism is not another system of religion than Christianity, but it claims to be "the only Christian religion," the final restoration of the Apostolic system to Joseph Smith, after fourteen centuries of corruption. The Mormons have no mission to the lost world,—their message is to the Christian Church and the Christian Church only. A Christian missionary from Utah writes: "The earlier the Christian Church realizes the genius and the purposes of the Mormon system, the fiercer and faster will the conflict wage, and the earlier and the more far-reaching and glorious will be the final victory."

There is to be a Tibetan newspaper in the near future and Lhasa, the mysterious forbidden city, is to be joined to the rest of the world by telegraph. "There will be no more celestial calm for a people who must learn to put a telegram into ten words, and must read in the morning paper that there has been a terrible fire in Chen Lung's barn at Hankow."